Policies Concerning the Treatment of Transgender Students

Lexington City Schools July 2021



- ➤ The 2020 General Assembly session passed section 22.1-23.3 regarding policies focused on the treatment of transgender students.
- The law required the VDOE to make available to each school board model policies concerning the treatment of transgender students in public elementary and secondary schools addressing 8 topics:

Lexington City Schools



- Compliance with applicable nondiscrimination laws;
- 2. Protection from discrimination and harassment for all students;
- 3. Bullying and harassment;
- 4. Maintenance of student records;
- 5. Identification of students;
- 6. Student privacy and confidentiality of sensitive information;
- 7. Enforcement of gender-based dress codes;
- 8. Student participation in sex-specific activities and use of facilities



- ➤ Each school board must adopt policies that are consistent with but may be more comprehensive than the VDOE's model policies.
- ➤ All school boards in VA must adopt policies to address these 8 categories prior to the start of the 2021-2022 school year.
- VSBA did not draft a stand-alone policy, but instead provided a Policy Page with a detailed description of the 8 topics to be addressed and which VSBA policies address these topics.

- ➤ LCS current district policies align with the relevant VSBA policies outlined in the May 2021, Number 180 VSBA Policy Page (5/21/21). These policies are in our current approved Policy Manual for LCS.
- Regarding the legal requirements applicable to providing facility usage, the law is clear that transgender students must be allowed to use the restrooms and locker rooms for the gender with which they consistently identify and assert.
- ➤ All students may be given access to a private restroom in school..
- LCS will follow the law.





- ➤ LCS will continue to work with all students, including transgender students, to provide accommodations that will make them feel more comfortable in the learning environment.
- Some transgender students may wish to use the restroom of the gender with which they consistently identify and assert.
- We recognize that some students/families may be uncomfortable with this practice; however, any student may request access to a private restroom in the school.

Our schools and school district remain committed to meeting the academic and social emotional needs of all students while fostering a culture of kindness where everyone is welcomed, respected, and valued.

